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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Belgium

SUBJECT Group SOUMVA

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1. The Office of Social Service of the Communist Party, or "Group SOUMVA", is allegedly the fund collecting agency of the Belgian CP and the "Front de l'Independence" for the International Brigades in Greece. Recruiting of Belgian volunteers for the International Brigades is also carried out by means of a propaganda campaign conducted by this Group. Details

2. It is reported that only the most devoted and discreet CP and FI members compose "Group SOUMVA", headed by Jacques GRIPPA, Senator Jean FONTEYNE, André ADAM, Jules VANDERLINDEN and a Jew named SCHAK (sic).

3. Outwardly, the IB funds are collected for the cause of the Belgian CP, are transmitted through regular channels to the Treasurer of the Central Committee and eventually go to "Group SOUMVA". There is, at present, no available estimate of the amount of this collection, but it is obtained by means of gift donations, subscriptions and money-raising fetes held by the CP.

4. It is also reported that volunteers who have signed up through "Group SOUMVA" are members of the CP or were active in the resistance movement, "Partisans Armes". Before his departure from Belgium each volunteer received 250 francs per week as part payment. When he is abroad, his family will receive an amount equal to that paid the volunteer by his former employer.

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~~This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.~~
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